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**CLAIMS:**

1. An inkjet recording element comprising a support having thereon at least one image-receiving layer, said inkjet recording element containing colloidal particles having a charged or chargeable surface and having associated therewith  
5 at least two polymers having ionised or ionisable groups thereon, wherein one of those polymers has ionised or ionisable groups of opposite charge to that of the surface of the colloidal particles and another of those polymers has ionised or ionisable groups the same as that of the surface of the colloidal particles.
- 10 2. An element according to claim 1 wherein the colloidal particles are organic, inorganic or a composite thereof.
- 15 3. An element according to either of the preceding claims wherein the colloidal particles are negatively charged and are selected from the class consisting of a silica, surface-treated silica, zinc oxide, zirconium oxide, aluminium oxide, titanium oxide, barium sulfate, kaolin clay, calcined clay, montmorillonite and talc.
- 20 4. An element according to either of claims 1 and 2 wherein the colloidal particles are positively charged and are selected from the class consisting of a silica, surface-treated silica, aluminium oxide, zinc oxide, magnesium oxide and calcium carbonate.
- 25 5. An element according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the particles are colloidal silica, silica gel, hydrous silica or fumed silica.
6. An element according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the equivalent spherical diameter of the colloidal particles is from about 0.01 to about 10 $\mu\text{m}$ .

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7. An element according to claim 6 wherein the equivalent spherical diameter of the colloidal particles diameter is from about 0.04 to about  $0.5\mu\text{m}$ .

8. An element according to any one of the preceding claims wherein a polymer includes a monomer that has a positive charge or can be induced to have a positive charge and is independently selected from the class consisting of allylamine, ethyleneimine, vinylamine, 2-vinylpyridine, 4-vinylpyridine, diallyldimethylammonium, 2-vinylpiperidine, 4-vinylpiperidine, 2-butyl-methacryloxyethyltrimethyl ammonium, 4-vinybenzyltrimethylammonium, N,N'-bis 2,2,6,6-tetramethyl-4-piperidine, dimethyliminomethylene, butyl acrylate methacryloxyethyltrimethylammonium and a salt or derivative thereof.

9. An element according to any one of the preceding claims wherein a polymer is selected from polyethyleneimine, poly(4-vinylpyridine) and cationically-modified polyvinyl alcohol.

10. An element according to any one claims 1 to 7 wherein a polymer includes a monomer that has a negative charge or can be induced to have a negative charge and is independently selected from the class consisting of styrenesulfonic acid, vinylsulfonic acid, acrylic acid, 2-acrylamido-2-methyl-propane sulfonic acid, maleic anhydride, maleic acid, ethylene sulfonic acid, methacrylic acid, vinylsulfuric acid, ethylenephosphonic acid, maleic acid, 2-methacryloxyethane-1-sulfonic acid, 3-methacryloxyethane-1-sulfonic acid, vinylbenzoic acid, 3-(vinyloxy)propane-1-sulfonic acid, 4-vinylphenol, 4-vinyl-phenylsulfuric acid, 4-n-vinylsuccinamic acid and a salt or derivative thereof.

11. An element according to any one of claims 1 to 7 and 10 wherein a polymer is selected from the class consisting of a sodium polystyrene sulfonate, a polystyrene sulfonate salt, a copolymer of styrene sulfonate with another monomer, a copolymer of styrene sulfonates and a monomer of maleic acid or anhydride monomer, polyacrylic acid, poly 2-acrylamido-2-methyl-propane sulfonate and an anionically-modified polyvinyl alcohol.

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12. An element according to any one of claims 1 to 7, 10 and 11 wherein a polymer comprises a styrenesulfonate monomer.

13. An element according to any one of claims 1 to 7 wherein a  
5 polymer is a polyampholyte copolymer comprising a mixture of uncharged and pH-dependent negative and positive charges.

14. An element according to claim 13 wherein the polyampholyte is gelatin or a gelatin derivative.

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15. An element according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the total weight of polymer based upon volume of the colloidal particles is about 10 to about 40%.

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16. An element according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the ratio of a polymer or polymers of one charge type to that of another polymer or polymers of another charge type is not more than about 100:1.

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17. An element according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the image-receiving layer contains a binder selected from the class consisting of a poly(vinylalcohol), poly(vinyl acetate), styrene acrylic latex and styrene butadiene latex.

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18. An element according to any one of the preceding claims wherein the image-receiving layer contains one or more mordants.

19. A method of coating a substrate comprising the steps of

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(a) providing colloidal particles having a charged or chargeable surface;

(b) combining the colloidal particles with at least two polymers having ionised or ionisable groups thereon, one of those polymers having ionised or ionisable groups of opposite charge to that of the surface of the colloidal

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same as that of the surface of the colloidal particles to provide a coatable formulation;

(c) applying the formulation to the substrate to form a coating thereon and

5 (d) drying the resultant coating.

20. A method according to claim 19 wherein the at least two polymers are added either sequentially and/or as a mixture.

10 21. A method according to either of claims 19 and 20 wherein the colloidal particles are as defined in any one of claims 2 to 7.

22. A method according to any one of claims 19 to 21 wherein the at least two polymers are as defined in any one of claims 8 to 14.

15 23. A method according to any one of claims 19 to 22 wherein the substrate is paper, resin-coated paper or a transparent support.

24. A method according to any one of claims 19 to 23 wherein the 20 formulation is coated onto the substrate by a pre-metered or post-metered coating method.

25. A method according to any one of claims 19 to 24 wherein the coating formulation comprises at least 4% by volume of colloidal particles.

26. The use of colloidal particles as defined in any one of claims 2 to 7 and at least two polymers as defined in any one of claims 8 to 14 to provide an inkjet element as defined in claim 1 providing improved image stability and dry time.

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27. An inkjet printing method comprising the steps of  
(a) providing an inkjet printer that is responsive to digital data  
signals;  
(b) loading the printer with an inkjet recording element as defined  
in any one of claims 1 to 18 ;  
(c) loading the printer with an inkjet composition; and  
(d) printing on the inkjet recording element using the inkjet  
composition in response to the digital data signals.